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2,000 COMMANDOS LAND IN COLONY

COLONY'S NEW G.O.C.

HONG KONG'S NEW GENERAL OFFICER COMMANDING HAS ARRIVED IN THE COLONY.

He is Major-General F. W. Festing, D.S.O., who was in command of the 36th Division in the Burma campaign.

Major-General Festing arrived in H.M.S. Ontario and yesterday was busily engaged making contact with local officials.

KOWLOON VISIT

General Festing also made a tour of Group Capt. Barker's R.A.F. dispositions in Kowloon yesterday. He was accompanied by top-ranking R.A.F. officers in charge of Kowloon's policing.

Stafford Cripps On Trade

Sir Stafford Cripps, President of the Board of Trade, declared in London yesterday: "I am confident that unless we regain and increase our markets, there is a very real danger of us sinking to the level of a second-class power."

"But I am confident that if we co-operate enthusiastically we can lead the world forward into a condition where the atomic bomb will not hold any terrors for the world's population."

Sir Stafford advocated a three-fold partnership between employers, employees and governments. He continued: "We are going out into export markets as soon as we can make goods to sell."

"We do not merely want to snatch orders wherever they may be found, but to build up for ourselves a stable reputation that will lay the foundations, not merely for regaining our own markets, but also for new markets, which we must have if we are to maintain our standard of living."

STAHMER ON BLACK LIST

Besides ex-Prime Minister Tojo, who tried to commit suicide, another on the list for questioning in Tokyo is Lieutenant-General Masaharu Homma.

He is generally regarded as having been responsible for the infamous "death march" of American prisoners after the surrender of Corregidor.

Others include: Pratap Mahendra, leader of the Indian pro-Japanese "Arya Army";

Jorge Vargas, who was puppet ambassador to Japan from the Philippines; and

Dr. Heinrich Stahmer, German Ambassador to Japan. —Wireless.

DEATH SENTENCES ON POLES

Four death penalties, and prison sentences totalling 350 years were imposed on Tuesday night on 39 Poles by a British military court.

They were convicted of participating in disorders in which a number of Germans were burned to death and seven German civilians killed. —Reuter.

UNITED NATIONS

United States planes in the Pacific area fitted with British fuel tanks and used British fuel. This interesting fact was revealed to the "China Mail" yesterday by one of our new arrivals.

Four Regiments Arrive; Stirring Scenes In City

THE STIRRING ECHOES OF MARTIAL MUSIC, BRINGING OFFICE WORK IN THE CENTRAL DISTRICT TEMPORARILY TO A COMPLETE STOPPAGE, SIGNALLIED THE LANDING IN THE COLONY YESTERDAY OF THE 3RD COMMANDO BRIGADE.

UNDER THE COMMAND OF BRIGADIER CAMPBELL RICHARD HARDY, D.S.O., THE 3RD BRIGADE CONSISTS OF THE 1ST, 42ND, 44TH AND 45TH COMMANDO REGIMENTS, TWO OF WHICH HAVE TAKEN UP QUARTERS AT MURRAY BARRACKS AND THE OTHERS "SOMEWHERE IN KOWLOON."

Latest Spitfires for Kai Tak

A NEW SPITFIRE SQUADRON IS THE LATEST ADDITION TO THE COLONY'S RAPIDLY GROWING ARMY OF MARTIAL MIGHT.

The Squadron's machines are all of the very last word in Spitfire development, the Spitfire 14. They are to be based at Kai Tak within the next few days, coming ashore from H.M.S. Smiler which brought the R.A.F. unit from India.

Officially, it is known as the 12th (Bombay) Squadron, and it is under the leadership of Squadron Leader Ken Charnoy, D.F.C. and bar. He hails from Buenos Aires and is only 25 years of age.

Japanese Hara-kiri In Kowloon

The internment of 6,000 Japanese at Shamshui Camp has been carried through during the last two days without any other incident than hara-kiri on the part of one Japanese and the hospitalisation of La Salle of two others, victims of sun-stroke.

The Japanese who decided that death was the best solution of all his problems chose the razor-blade method. Gillette blades would have earned a good advertisement other than for the fact that it was established by the "China Mail" that an ordinary cut-throat razor was used. Earlier information mentioned "Gillette."

JAPS GO HOME WITHOUT SHAME

United Press reports from Tokyo that numerous thousands of Japanese troops have been demobilised, and are returning home without shame at having already broken the "Bushido" code, which insists that when a man leaves home to fight he must only be victorious.

These men face a problem for which there is no precedent in Japanese history.

LAWSON TO VISIT FAR EAST

Mr. Geoffrey Lawson, Secretary for War, will leave London today by air for a visit to the Far East to see how the British troops are getting on. He will visit the Elwak area, according to a B.B.C. news item broadcast last night.

H.M.S. DUKE OF YORK

H.M.S. Duke of York, flagship of Admiral Sir Bruce Fraser, is not now expected to arrive in the Colony until Friday.

COAL IN TWO DAYS

Coal is expected in the Colony in the next two days, and Hong Kong Electric Co., Ltd. will be able to supply the full requirements of the island two days after its arrival, declared Mr. A. G. Langston, general manager, yesterday afternoon.

STETTINIUS CALLS FOR ACTION

THE UNITED STATES, BACKED BY SOVIET RUSSIA, IS SEEKING TODAY TO HAVE THE UNITED NATIONS PEACE-KEEPING ORGANIZATION PUT INTO OPERATION BY THIS YEAR BY ESTABLISHING A CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY.

For three hours the Executive Committee of the United Nations Preparatory Commission debated a proposal by Edward Stettinius, the American delegate, to convene a constituent assembly in November or December.

After continuous opposition by Britain, Australia and Canada, the delegates agreed on this November first as the tentative date for convening a full preparatory commission. It would then call the first assembly of the United Nations.

The argument centres around whether the first assembly should be of a constituent nature or a fully-empowered body.

Stettinius stressed and urged the need for permanent machinery through which the United Nations could solve their international problems. —Reuter.

CORRESPONDENCE

Good Old Days?

Sir, "Another Observer" has an unanswerable case when he points to the "Co-operators with the Japanese" who have been invited to serve, and are serving, in the Hong Kong Reconstruction Advisory Committee.

Not all the "Co-operators" were to blame. Some acted under duress. Others were in terror of their lives, or their wealth.

I have another complaint against the method of selection of members of the Committee. No list has been published by Government. But the Chinese Press says that the Committee is made up of "leading members of the Chinese community," the Chinese (unofficial) Justices of the Peace, the Boards or Committees of the Tung Wah Hospital and the Po Leung Kuk, and representatives of some of the professions.

This sounds exactly like the good old days that everybody now professes to abhor. Money-bag calibre was the deciding factor in selecting a J.P. or somebody for honour and duty then, and seems to be so now.

Yesterday's "Wah-Kiu Yat Po" referred to the Reconstruction Advisory Committee. The only topic of discussion (by the Committee) reported by your Chinese contemporary was that of the rights of house owners. A sub-committee has been appointed to go into their legal rights.

Will you, Mr. Editor, agitate for the next sub-committee to inquire into what each Chinese J.P. did for himself, and the public during the War and the Japanese

Occupation Of Tokyo Now Completed

GENERAL DOUGLAS MACARTHUR HAS GIVEN THE JAPANESE AUTHORITIES A BLUE-PRINT OF THE ALLIED OCCUPATION POLICY THAT WILL PERMIT THE CONQUERED NATION TO GOVERN ITSELF UNDER ALLIED DIRECTIVES.

THESE ARE DESIGNED TO SMOTHER FOREVER ANY NEW THREAT TO WORLD PEACE. THE ALLIED COMMANDER, OUTLINING THREE BROAD OBJECTIVES OF THE UNITED NATIONS, DECLARED THAT THE OCCUPATION TROOPS WILL RESORT TO FORCE OF ARMS ONLY IF IT IS NECESSARY TO OBTAIN THESE ENDS.

He said the Japanese appeared to be doing everything in their power to follow Allied instructions.

He warned his troops that the occupation of Japan must take place without unnecessary violence, and without undue oppression.

General MacArthur, now has between 70,000 and 80,000 men in Japan to back up his demands, and two new divisions are landing in the American beach-head south of Tokyo.

The 7th division is landing by air at Atsugi, and troops are pouring ashore at Yokohama. As new thousands of Americans swarmed into Japan, the Japanese officially surrendered Korea, Northern Honshu and the northern-most home island of Hokkaido.

In an official statement of allied policy, MacArthur listed the allies' objectives as:

(1) abolition of militarism and militant nationalism.

(2) encouragement of liberal tendencies and processes such as freedom of religion, press, speech and assembly.

(3) creation of conditions which will assure that Japan will not again become a menace to the peace and security of the world, and will permit the organisation of a government that will respect the rights of other nations and Japan's international obligations.

ALLIED ORDERS

All necessary instructions will be given to Emperor Hirohito and his government, and every opportunity will be given for them to carry out the Allied orders without further compulsion.

The occupation forces will act principally as an agency upon which the supreme commander for the allied powers may call if necessary to secure compliance with his instructions to the Japanese government.

PRISONERS FREE

THE JAPANESE REPORTED 11,431 PRISONERS IN THE ARMY AREA, OF WHICH 8,083 HAVE BEEN LIBERATED. OF THESE 6,936 HAVE BEEN RE-VA CUATED.

The First Cavalry Division completed its occupation of Tokyo yesterday, when hundreds of doughboys went sightseeing along the famous Ginza—Tokyo's main street. The soldiers were disappointed. Bombed business houses and low stocks of merchandise offered at prices ten times above pre-war level, was all they saw.

Reports from the American occupation forces in Korea said General Nobuyaku Abe, Japanese Governor-General, will remain in that country, until the Americans have completed occupation of all areas south of the 38th parallel. —Wireless.

Or perhaps things might be done by selecting a Committee to Advise the Advisory Committee on their duties. That would be fun. —ALL'S WELLS.

ITAGAKI SIGNS AT SINGAPORE

ACCORDING TO AN ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE B.B.C. LAST NIGHT, ADMIRAL LORD LOUIS MOUNTBATTEN, AT SINGAPORE YESTERDAY, FORMALLY ACCEPTED JAPAN'S SURRENDER FROM GENERAL ITAGAKI, WHO SIGNED ON BEHALF OF MARSHAL TERAUCHI, THE LATTER BEING ABSENT ON ACCOUNT OF ILLNESS.

After Admiral Mountbatten had signed, representatives of America, Australia, France and China appended their signatures.

The surrender meant that all Japanese forces in S.E. Asia will now come under the control of Admiral Lord Louis Mountbatten who stated that the terms of the surrender would be strictly followed and that he would stand no nonsense from the Japanese.

VISIT TO H. K. BREWERY

Accompanied by Royal Naval officers, Mr. J. H. Rutledge, owner of the Hong Kong Brewery, producers of H. B. Beer, visited the brewery plant, some 14 miles out on the Castle Peak Road yesterday.

The plant, which had for some odd reason aroused the "ire" of the United States Air Force some months ago, was found to be in fairly promising condition. The U.S.A.F. had laid waste to some territory in the near vicinity and had scored some hits on the brewery area.

Some barrels of recently-brewed beer were found, but these were found to have soured.

MORE OLD HANDS RETURN

Five more members of the new civil administration have arrived in the Colony.

They are: Lieut.-Col. H. Owen Hughes, a leading cricketer, and son of the late Mr. J. Owen Hughes;

Colonel T. R. Rowell, Education Department, formerly Principal of the Teachers' Training College; Squadron Leader S. E. Faber; Colonel A. Burgess; Captain Cadogan Edwards.

LORD WAVELL BOUND FOR INDIA

The Viceroy of India, Lord Wavell, who has been engaged in talks on India, has now concluded his discussions and will leave London by air for India to-day. —B.B.C.

The "China Mail" is officially informed that Japanese prisoners-of-war in Hong Kong total about 18,000. Of these, about 4,000 are civilians. Present plans limit Shamshui's internment total to the 6,000 limit.

THE CHINA MAIL

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FORGOTTEN MEN?

Government's repatriation policy seems to be crying out, urgently, for clarification. Not because official statements have been lacking, but because they have been many, because they have come from varied sources and because they have been, in details important to British civilians, astonishingly contradictory. In the result, the measure of uncertainty and confusion is greater than would have been the case if Government had preserved silence. For the civil servant, complications are few. His job is secure, he looks forward to back pay, he needs a holiday to restore health and vigour. His only anxiety is to get out of the Colony at the earliest opportunity. Facing a medical board, if he displays a certain tendency to pile on the agony, his mood and purpose are readily understood, and are not to be denied sympathy. There is not a man who has come through Stanley or Shanshuipo and all that those names imply, who does not need an extended period for recuperation. Those who, for themselves, believe otherwise, deceive themselves, perhaps dangerously. For the civilian, and particularly for those connected with small but not necessarily unimportant businesses, the issues involved are not quite so straightforward. His need is as great but, in many cases, his personal problem assumes the dimensions of a gigantic question-mark. Can he afford to abandon his stake in the Colony and his future livelihood? What risk would he run in leaving the tattered fragments as they lie in the hope of picking them up some several months hence? What assurance has he against the energetic business prospector coming into the Colony from outside during his 'enforced' absence and jumping his 'claim'? To these questions Government has made no attempt to furnish any answer. None that is unless it is to be found embodied in the somewhat cynical warning to those who "choose" to remain, that they "must be prepared to accept responsibility for whatever consequences may result from such action on their part." If we are so to interpret this warning, it would be as well to see that it is made crystal clear. If the Government of this Colony proposes to wash its hands of individual causes, except upon a casual, callous "Take it or leave it" basis, the fact should be made known, beyond possibility of misunderstanding. If such an attitude of mind officially exists, it is one with which every person directly affected needs to be made acquainted, that he may mark, learn and inwardly digest. If, on the other hand, the alarm—and the disgust—generated by fear that such is Government policy are not justified, if indeed

News Out Of The Past

Mr. Norman Stockton, formerly editor of "The Hong Kong Telegraph" was killed when flying as a correspondent in a bomber over Germany late in 1943.

Mr. S. V. Gittins, well-known local swimmer and cricketer who escaped from Singapore, is now in China. His wife, formerly Miss Ellen Ford of Hong Kong, is living in Darjeeling, India, with their baby daughter.

The many friends here of Mr. D. S. Green, who was on the staff of Dunlop Rubber Co., is a Staff Sergeant in the R.A.O.C. He has served in India and China.

Mr. A. V. Kolatchoff, who was on the staff of the Hong Kong Engineering and Construction Co., Ltd., and of Royal Engineers, joined the American Army Air Force in 1943 after his escape from Hong Kong.

Miss Margaret Grose, daughter of Mr. J. F. Grose, local sharbroker, is now with the Ministry of Information in Delhi, India.

Mr. S. M. Churn, manager of the Union Trading Co., who was in Burma at the outbreak of the East Asiatic War, joined the Army in India and served until recently repatriated to England. He held the rank of Major.

Mr. Wong Sik-lum, architect son of the late Mr. Wong Kam-fuk who was for many years commander of the Hong Kong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Ltd., is now in business in Cebu. He was engaged on work on the Burma Road shortly before the war.

Dr. Raymond Lee, formerly assistant to Prof. K. H. Digby at Hong Kong University, is now a captain in the Royal Army Medical Corps.

Mr. A. G. Safflad, of British American Tobacco Co., is in Kunming with Mrs. Safflad and their daughter Mary. His daughter Miss Zaza Safflad, who was one of the leading lady athletes at Hong Kong University just before the war, is in Calcutta office of China National Aviation Co., while her sister, Ada, is with the U.S.O.W.I. in Chungking.

Mr. J. R. Veiga, formerly of "The South China Morning Post," is with the British Press Attache's office in Kunming, while Mr. E. Tsong, who was with "The Hong Kong Daily Press" was a war correspondent for Central News Agency. He covered Gen. Stilwell's Ledo Road drive and was latterly at Okinawa. Another former Hong Kong newspaperman, Mr. Felix Wu, is also a Central News Agency war correspondent, is attached to the South-east Asia Command.

Occupants of houses and caretakers of public buildings are called upon to flush all unused W.C.s and get rid of all connections of standing water on roofs and bath-rooms etc., in order to stamp out mosquito breeding. This should be carried out at least once a week.

Government has plans for special cases, it is equally desirable that the position should be made clear beyond doubt. Before his mind can be made up, go or stay, each man has a right to know exactly where he stands, what to expect, what protection he may look to in his absence. In short, as we said in the beginning, clarification seems called for.

ARE YOU LEAVING?

Keep up-to-date with the reconstruction of Hong Kong by subscribing to "The Weekly China Mail," which will also contain all local news and photographs from "The Hong Kong Sunday Herald."

The Subscription rate for Hong Kong residents overseas will be free until the new currency is introduced, when Subscribers will be informed by letter of the Subscription rate.

ON SALE TO-DAY

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Thorny Problems Face British Cabinet

Issues Raised At Blackpool

THE EXCEPTIONAL INTEREST SHOWN IN THE PRESENT TRADE UNION COUNCIL MEETING IN BLACKPOOL HAS TWO MAIN CAUSES. THE FIRST IS THE FACT THAT THE LABOUR GOVERNMENT IS IN-POWER WITH A MASSIVE MAJORITY. THE SECOND IS THAT THE AGENDA REFLECTS THE THORNY PROBLEMS BOTH DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL WHICH CONFRONT THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT AFTER WORLD WAR TWO.

Regarding the first cause, the programme points out that the trade unions sponsor about two and a quarter millions of labour party membership. This does not mean, however, that it is necessary to adopt the Labour Party line of policy.

The Trade Union Council comprises nearly 200 trade unions, and the membership has grown from 120 thousand 77 years ago to over six and a half millions to-day.

Regarding resolutions, the programme stresses that the world will follow all issues with close attention; for instance, the balance to be struck on the man-power situation in Britain is of world moment.

The "emergency" resolution on this subject is being debated to-day.

PRIORITY ISSUE

On many domestic resolutions—health, housing, mines, etc.—disagreement is expected on priority rather than principles.

The Government is already committed to these resolutions, while ministers will probably look with favour on resolutions regarding such questions as wages and working-hours.

There may, however, be excitement on Thursday, when international matters, including German trade unions and refusal of representation at San Francisco to British trade unions, are discussed.

On the latter point, Mr. Clement Attlee, the Prime Minister, who did not support the request, may come in for criticism.

PEACE CONFERENCE

Both the Trade Union Council and international trade union bodies had insisted, and expected for some time that the trade union movement would be represented at the Peace Conference in all stages.

They were annoyed by exclusion from official representation at the San Francisco conference. The military programme presents the factual background in regard to the Singapore Naval Base.

In connection with the announcement that half of the Singapore Naval Base is expected to be in operation by the Royal Navy in a fortnight, London commentators recall that the history of the British naval base of Singapore has been closely connected with the development of the Royal Navy since 1918.

The need for the provision of a base for the British Fleet in the Far East was emphasized after World War One by the inadequacy of the already existing Hong Kong base to accommodate the largest British capital ships and by the great distance of the nearest

docking and repair base for heavy ships at Malta—6,000 miles from the Malacca Straits.

SYDNEY BASE

After 12 years incessant work on the Singapore Base it was formally inaugurated in February 1933, when Sir Shenton Thomas, Governor of Malaya, opened the new King George Fifth graving dock, then the biggest in existence. The total cost of the base was 30 million Pounds. Some 8 million cubic yards of earth were excavated, and this utilized for filling over 450 acres of swamp, which was converted into ground suitable for erecting heavy buildings. The loss of Singapore base to the Japanese in 1942 was offset by the development of Sydney as a base for the British Navy, including the construction of the Captain Cook graving dock—opened early in 1943—seven larger than the Singapore dock.—Reuter.

TRAIN TRIP TO SHUMCHUN

THE FUEL SUPPLY PROBLEM IN HONG KONG HAS NECESSITATED THE DISPATCH OF TWO TRAINS TO THE NEW TERRITORIES IN THE LAST TWO DAYS

The driver, Lt. Peter Frank Harris, R.N.V.R., is said to have demanded and been provided with a crash helmet and parachute for "safety" first purposes.

Lt. Harris, who comes from Bill Shakespeare's home-town Stratford-on-Avon, asked for these because of stories current as to the condition of tunnels and bridges.

Chinese guerrillas and saboteurs had been interested in them for four years. Unofficial demolition work through the period of Japanese occupation had therefore been a frequent enough occurrence.

The train left Kowloon yesterday at 11.30 a.m. with one locomotive and two coaches attached. "Driver" Harris was assisted by Sub. Lt. Spurway.

The train was driven by easy stages to Shum Chun on the New Territories border.

Half a mile from the station at Tai-po, they came across a fairly large store of wood, flint and other insecticide.

At Fanling, formerly well-known as the Royal Hong Kong Golf Club Station, ten waggons loaded with wood were added to the train, which returned to Tsimshatsui at 7 p.m. with no other incident to record other than "hot-box" explosion.

PEARL HARBOUR INQUIRY

Republicans have served notice that they will demand equal representation on the Joint Senate House Committee named to investigate the Pearl Harbour disaster from beginning to end.—Wireless.

CALL FOR TEAM WORK

Major Clement Attlee, Prime Minister, speaking at the Trade Union Congress yesterday, said that for six years Great Britain had drawn heavily on her social capital. He praised the team work of the British nation, adding that only that same team work would bring us through difficult times again.

Speaking of the cessation of Lend and Lease, the Premier said that we were assured of supplies from Canada for which we were very grateful.

Major Attlee also spoke of the desire to give Trade Unions more freedom and added that the consultations between the T.U.C. and Government would go on in the switch over to peace as in war.

Referring to self-government for India, Major Attlee said that as in other foreign fields there were many problems which awaited the United Nations Organisation.—B.B.C.

Death of Leading Mason

The death occurred yesterday, after a protracted illness, of one of the Colony's most prominent Freemasons, Mr. James Carson Ferguson.

Mr. Ferguson had resided in Hong Kong for more than 37 years and leaves behind a widow and four children. He was 64 years of age.

For many years, he was District Grand Secretary, Scottish Constitution, in Hong Kong, and in 1940 he became District Grand Master. His Deputy, Mr. W. C. Shrigley, is also dead. He was a victim of Japanese torture following an incident at Argyle Street camp, and was killed at Central Police Station during the "investigation."

The late Mr. Carson Ferguson, who retired from service with the Talook Dock some six or seven years ago, had been ailing for some time past, though he had seemed to be somewhat improved in the last week. On his release, with his family, from the internment camp at Matauchung, he was not well enough to travel to Hong Kong and he stayed at the residence of Dr. V. N. Atienza, No. 17, Lock Road, where he passed away early yesterday morning.

The funeral took place yesterday evening at Happy Valley with Masonic ceremonial.

RADIO

THURSDAY, 13th SEPTEMBER, 1945.

ZBW HONGKONG Broadcasting on Frequencies of 845 Kilocycles and 9.47 Megacycles.

12.30 p.m.—Competitions of Gries.

1.00 p.m.—News & Announcements.

1.10 p.m.—Variety.

1.30 p.m.—MANDARIN & CANTON KSB PROGRAMMES.

2.00 p.m.—Close down.

6.30 p.m.—Variety.

7.00 p.m.—News & Announcements.

7.10 p.m.—Violin Solos by Fritz Kreisler.

7.30 p.m.—MANDARIN & CANTON KSB PROGRAMMES.

9.00 p.m.—News and Announcements in English.

9.10 p.m.—STUDIO "Five Stars in Five Years", A Talk by Lieut. G. Potter, D.S.C., R.N.

9.25 p.m.—Dance Music.

10.00 p.m.—London Relay: The News and Highlights from the News papers.

10.10 p.m.—Compositions of Wagner.

10.30 p.m.—Close down.

AMERICAN QUEST

The United States Government is taking steps at the moment to register all United States citizens of Chinese race who were not re-patriated in 1943.

Col. Kettering, of the United States Air Force, is taking charge. He is, at present, in residence at the Peninsula Hotel, Kowloon. It is estimated that there are some 80 to 90 American-born Chinese in Hong Kong.

No definite time has yet been fixed for the Surrender Ceremony. As soon as a time is fixed public notification will be given.

VICTORY SERVICE

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